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For the Hon. Alpheus Selch. 45  
of Michigan

with the compliments of  
Theodore Sedgwick  
STATEMENT

MADE BY THE

Association for the Exhibition

OF THE

INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS,

IN REGARD TO THE

ORGANIZATION AND PROGRESS

OF THE

ENTERPRISE.

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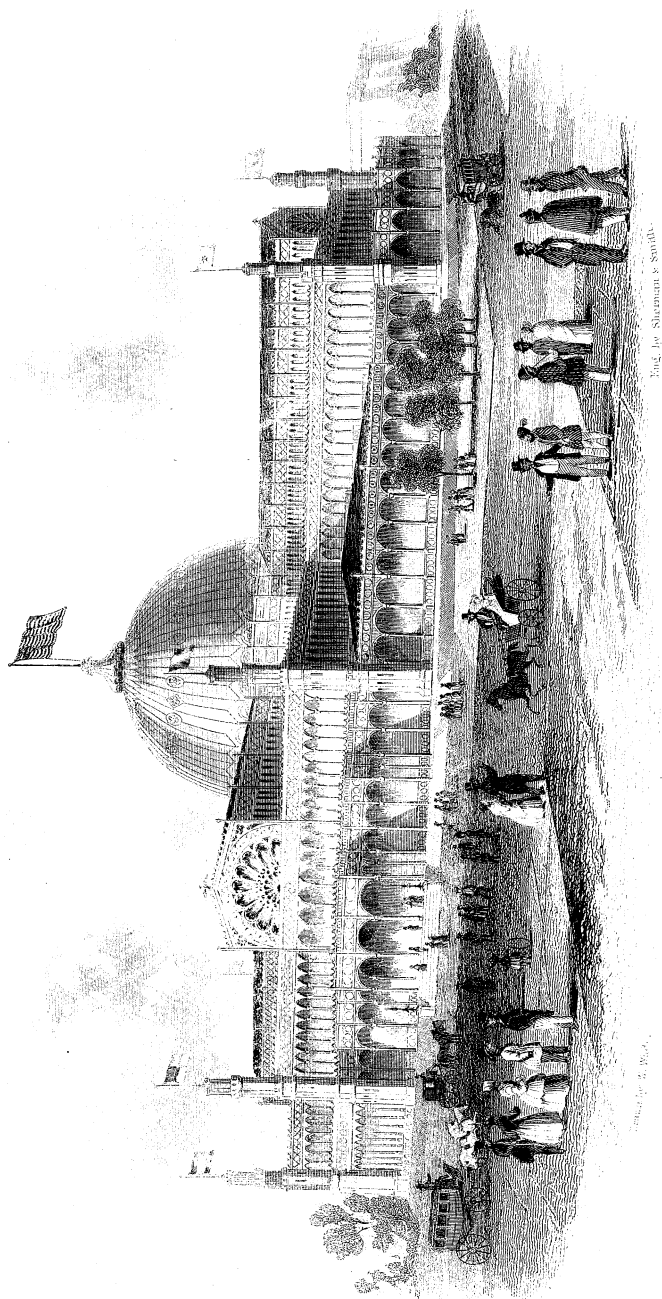
NEW-YORK:

CARR & HICKS, STATIONERS AND PRINTERS, 31 MAIDEN LANE.

—  
1853.







NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF

STATEMENT

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## STATEMENT.

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THIS pamphlet is published under the direction of the Association which is preparing the Industrial Exhibition, to take place in the city of New-York, in the spring of the year 1853; and is drawn up for the purpose of preserving and communicating to all parties interested in the enterprise, a detailed account of the origin, purposes, organization and progress of the enterprise, up to this time.

The undertaking is still far from its completion. The Directors are perfectly aware how much severe labor yet remains before their task is performed. They are especially desirous to avoid all boasting and vain-glorious language, but it seems not too much to affirm that their ultimate success is now certain. It is convenient for the Association to have, in a condensed form, a narrative of all that has been hitherto done; and it appears due to those public-spirited persons who have lent their aid to the enterprise in its infancy, to preserve a record of their co-operation.

The brilliant success of the London Exhibition turned the minds of the industrial world to the propriety and expediency of repetitions of that effort in different parts of Europe. Thus, steps have been taken to



organize one in Dublin for the next year; and preparations are making for one on a very extensive scale in Paris in the year 1854.

It was natural that those citizens of the United States who were in London in 1851, who witnessed the triumphs that our people achieved during that year, and who also saw the peculiarly popular character of expositions of this kind, and their beneficial tendencies in regard to the working classes, should early have entertained the idea of repeating the Exhibition on this side of the water. Accordingly, shortly after the close of the London Fair, steps were taken for the purpose.

It was manifest, however, on its face, that the enterprise was one of great magnitude, and calculated severely to tax the energies of all who embarked in it. The form of our political system, and the constitutional restrictions imposed on our State and Federal action, rendered it impossible that the affair should be, as it was in England, taken up and carried on by Government; and it therefore became necessary to rely upon individual enterprise and activity. But it was plain that no amount of vigor, nor any sum of money, would effect the object, unless the affair was so managed as not to subject it to the jealousy which a private enterprise is liable to encounter. It was necessary to inspire entire confidence as to the liberal objects of the managers; to satisfy the people of our own country that no sordid motive was the incitement to the scheme, and that it would be conducted so as truly to subserve the general interests of Industry; while it was equally necessary to create in foreign countries a confi-

dence that no local prejudice and no personal interest would warp the undertaking from its true aims. To any one at all familiar with the multitudinous currents of opinion in our own country, the innumerable conflicting interests of trade and of locality, the great difficulty of the enterprise will be at once apparent; but when to these are added the obstacles arising from international rivalry, distance, difference of language, and the as yet imperfect intercourse of the most highly civilized countries of the world, it will not be considered surprising that the managers of the enterprise thought it indispensable to secure all the aid that could properly be asked, from the public authorities.

In regard to the locality of the Exhibition, if the object had been to make a representation of American Industry only, it might have been considered expedient to select some one of the great manufacturing centres, as Boston and Philadelphia; but a display of European products being a necessary part of the scheme, it seemed indispensable to choose New-York; all the considerations which give that city its commercial pre-eminence as the chief entrepôt of European goods and the principal financial centre of the Union, tended to this result.

New-York, therefore, was selected, and on the 3d of January, 1852, the municipal authorities of that city, perceiving the benefits that must flow from the enterprise, if properly conducted, not only to the commerce and prosperity of the city, but to the cause of popular instruction and healthful entertainment, granted a lease of Reservoir Square for the object for five years, upon

two conditions: one that the building should be constructed of iron and glass, and the other, inspired by a proper regard for the interests of the public, that no single entrance-fee should exceed fifty cents.

The Legislature was then applied to, and that body, on the 11th of March, granted a Charter of Incorporation to the ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.

The principal provisions of the Act were as follows :

The Association was incorporated with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars, leave being given to raise the sum to three hundred thousand dollars.

The Directors were authorized to occupy any real estate that might be granted them, and thereon to erect a building for the purpose of the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations. They were further empowered to award Prizes, and to do every thing necessary to carry out the general object.

It is not however to be supposed that these steps were taken with as much ease as they are here related. On the contrary, as was indeed to be expected, somewhat both of indifference and of hostility was at the outset manifested.

The charter, in particular, was not obtained without contest, and the managers of the enterprise found here something of the opposition that they were aware they must encounter. It was urged that the enterprise was hostile to the interests of Domestic Industry ; and finding that this suggestion met with little favor, technical difficulties founded on the terms of the Constitution of the State were sought to be interposed. But if the

friends of the enterprise encountered opposition, they also found a cordial support and efficient aid, which satisfied them of the ultimate popularity of the undertaking, and the charter was passed in a space of time far more than usually short.\*

On the 17th of March, the Board of Directors met, and organized by the election of THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., President, and WILLIAM WHETTEN, Esq., as Secretary; and the Association immediately published the following general statement of the objects of the enterprise :

ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.—A charter having been granted by the Legislature of this State, for the purposes of an Industrial Exhibition; and the Corporation of the city having, with great liberality, granted the use of Reservoir Square for five years, the parties associated in the enterprise are now prepared to invite the coöperation of their fellow-citizens.

In doing this, they think it proper to state, at some length, the motives which guide them, and the objects which they hope to attain.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the idea was suggested by the brilliant success that attended the London Exhibition of last year.

That Exhibition, prompted by enlarged and liberal views, and carried out with energy and skill, was crowned with the most triumphant results; and a just pride authorizes us to assert that, in all that vast array of the triumphs of genius and industry, no nation gave more striking proofs of intellectual capacity and vigor, applied to the useful arts, than were manifested by our own people.

It was, therefore, a natural suggestion of patriotic and national feelings, that we should not only wish to see a like Exhibition in our own country, but that we should desire to reproduce in it the beneficial effects that had resulted from its great prototype.

It is generally acknowledged that the London Exhibition marks an era in the progress of the world—an era of which the distinctive characteristics are the advance of those arts which increase the comforts and heighten the delights of life, the spread of amicable relations among

\* The Charter will be found in the Appendix, (A.)

rival countries, and, above all, the elevation of labor to its proper dignity.

The difficulties apparent at the outset of the enterprise have been overcome; the liberality of the English Government has been emulated by the respective authorities of our country; and a correct appreciation of the objects of the Association seems to be entertained by those to whom they have been communicated; and we are satisfied, that the more generally these objects are made known, the more favorable will be their acceptance by our fellow-citizens, whose sagacity can foresee, as their coöperative energy can achieve, the results at which we aim.

In an edifice which, of itself, will be a noble monument of skill, we hope to bring together the choicest productions of the Old World's Industry; thus not only opening a fair field for the competition of the productive talent of America, but enlarging its scope and multiplying its aims; and, at the same time, presenting to all classes of the community such rare and novel objects of attention as cannot fail to widen the sphere of general knowledge.

It is well known that in London a great portion of the building was occupied by objects of but little interest, and that American Industry entered into the competition to a very small extent. It is believed that by a more careful selection of articles, and by a larger introduction of our own products, the interest of the Exhibition, in these two essential particulars, can be greatly increased.

In a statement of this kind it is impossible to introduce full details, but we may say, in general terms, that we have such assurances, not only from England, but from the principal countries of the Continent, as justify us in the expectation of bringing under the eyes of our fellow-citizens not only such specimens of the industrial arts as shall generally interest the practical American mind, but such rare products of industry and skill as have never been seen among us. Some of these were among the choicest articles of the London Exhibition, and others are now being prepared abroad expressly for exhibition here. And, more than this, we hope to bring within the reach of all such wonders of the Fine Arts as have hitherto been approached only by those of our countrymen who have been able to seek them abroad.

The corporation is authorized by its charter to award prizes among the exhibitors; and in discharging this part of their duty the Directors will hereafter invite the coöperation of the most eminent and capable of their fellow-citizens.

If we effect our object, we shall not only have imparted a fresh impetus to the career of our great metropolis, but we shall have given an impulse to mechanical skill and manufacturing industry; we shall have

raised higher the standard of taste; we shall have extended and diffused the knowledge of the various families of the Old World; and, in so doing, we shall have strengthened the great bonds of peace and goodwill.

The Association is incorporated, by an Act of the Legislature of the 11th March, 1852, for the term of five years.

The capital of the Company is \$200,000, to be divided into shares of \$100 each, and may be increased by the Directors to \$300,000.

The price of admission to the Exhibition is limited to fifty cents, and the cost of the building is restricted by the charter to \$200,000.

The Act of Incorporation provides that, for one day at least, the children and scholars of the schools of the Public School Society, of the Ward Schools, and of the Free Academy, of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institutions, and of the Orphan Asylums in the City of New-York, shall be admitted free of charge.

It also provides, that the net proceeds of one day's exhibition shall be appropriated and paid over to the Treasurers of the Fire Department Fund, for the benefit of Widows and Orphans of deceased Firemen in the cities of New-York and Brooklyn, and divided between them in the proportions of three-fourths to the former and one-fourth to the latter.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President.*

WM. WHETTEN, *Secretary.*

This was accompanied by the following call for subscriptions to the stock:

ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.—Capital \$200,000, with liberty to increase it to \$300,000.

This Institution being organized under a Charter granted by the Legislature of the State of New-York, the Company is now ready to receive Subscriptions to the Stock. The Books will be opened at the office of MESSRS. DUNCAN, SHERMAN & Co., of 48 William street, Bankers to this Company, from and after Friday, the second day of April, 1852.

Ten per cent. on the amount of subscriptions to be paid at the time of subscribing. No subscription to exceed Five Thousand Dollars.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President.*

WM. WHETTEN, *Secretary.*

The stock was gradually subscribed. There was not, at this time, any great eagerness manifested by our moneyed classes generally in regard to it, and in the commercial quarter perhaps not much confidence felt in the result. This was, in fact, an advantage, as it enabled the Directors easily to carry out the design declared as above, of dividing the stock and distributing it into many hands; and the result has been that the capital was taken by so large a number of persons, and the interest so widely extended, that the obnoxious character of a speculation has been completely avoided. The capital of two hundred thousand dollars was taken by, and divided between upwards of one hundred and fifty persons and firms.

The next important step was to secure the co-operation and countenance of the Federal Government. It was essential in order to obtain extensive support from the manufacturers of Europe that their goods should be admitted duty free. The proper Department of the Government of the United States treated the matter with cordial liberality; and on the 24th day of May, **Mr. MAXWELL**, Collector of the Port of New-York, made a written communication to the President of the Association, stating that the building, when erected, would be made a bonded warehouse, so as to receive the goods free of duty, while on exhibition.\*

It now became necessary to organize the Foreign Department of the enterprise, and in doing this it at once appeared indispensable that the affairs of the

\* Mr. Maxwell's letter will be found in the Appendix, (B.)

Association in Europe should, for the sake of order, be conducted by some one competent Agent. The Association felt that this was a most important trust, and one involving the greatest responsibility. To engage at once the co-operation of the producing classes, and to secure the confidence and support of the European governments, required talents, knowledge and experience, both of a commercial and a diplomatic character, and it seemed difficult to find any one person combining the requisite capacity. The Directors, however, succeeded altogether beyond their expectation, and engaged Mr. CHARLES BUSCHEK, of London, whose experience as Commissioner of the Austrian Department at the London Exhibition of 1851, high character, long commercial life, and excellent social position, pointed him out as eminently fitted for the place. Arrangements were thereupon entered into by which Mr. BUSCHEK was authorized to secure the co-operation of the manufacturers of Europe. The appointment of Mr. BUSCHEK was made on the 25th of June.

As soon as this was effected, the Association turned their attention to the organization of the staff of Architects and Engineers, to whom the construction of the building was to be confided; and very shortly after, Mr. C. E. DETMOLD was appointed Superintending Architect and Engineer; Mr. HORATIO ALLEN, Consulting Engineer; and Mr. EDMUND HURRY, Consulting Architect.

The plans of the Directors had by this time obtained sufficient development to render it certain that the objects of the Association would be accomplished,



and on the 12th of July the following circular was issued :

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY }  
OF ALL NATIONS, NEW-YORK, July 12th, 1852. }

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS give notice, that the Exhibition will be opened, in the City of New-York, on the 2d day of May, 1853.

The Municipal Authorities have granted to them the use of Reservoir Square, and they are proceeding to erect thereon a building worthy of the purpose to which it is to be devoted.

The Association desire to make the Exhibition, in fact as well as in name, a Representation from other countries as well as their own, of Raw Materials and Produce, Manufactures, Machinery, and Fine Arts.

To this end, they have made arrangements with CHARLES BUSCHKE, Esquire, late Commissioner of the Austrian Empire at the Industrial Exhibition of London, whose skill, experience and high character offer the most satisfactory security to Contributors from abroad.

Mr. Buschke is the authorized Agent of this Association, for all countries other than the Continent of America, and as such has received its instructions.

All communications from Contributors abroad must be addressed to him at "The Office of the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations in New-York," No. 6 Charing Cross, London. He will state to them the nature of the powers given and authority conferred, and will also explain the great inducements offered by this enterprise to European Exhibitors.

This Association will correspond with all persons in the United States, the Canadas and British Provinces, the West Indies, and this Continent generally, who may desire to contribute to this Exhibition.

All such communications must be addressed to "*The Secretary of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, New-York.*"

The Association is now ready to receive applications, and it is desired that they be sent in immediately. Due notice will be given, hereafter, when the building will be ready for the reception of articles.

Application for the admission of Objects to the Exhibition must represent intelligibly their nature and purpose, and must also state distinctly the number of Square Feet, whether of Wall, Floor or Counter, required.

Machinery will be exhibited in motion—the Motive Power to be furnished by the Association—and applications for the admission of Ma-

chinery, to be so exhibited, in addition to the general description and the requisition for space, must set forth the amount of Motive Power required.

The Association deem it proper to announce, that Paintings in Frames will be exhibited.

As, notwithstanding the magnitude of the proposed building, there must, necessarily, be a limitation of space, the Association reserves the right to modify or reject applications, but, in so doing, will be governed by strict impartiality, looking only to the general objects of the enterprise.

The Association also reserves the right of determining the length of time, not to exceed in any case one season, during which objects shall, severally, form part of the Exhibition.

Exhibitors are requested to designate an agent, to whom their contributions shall be delivered when withdrawn from the Exhibition.

Prizes for excellence in the various departments of the Exhibition, will be awarded under the direction of Capable and Eminent Persons.

With this statement the Directors solicit the co-operation of the Productive Intellect and Industry of their own and other countries.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President.*

WM. WHETTEN, *Secretary.*

The issuing of this circular furnished a good opportunity to test the disposition of the Old World to take part in the undertaking. It was at once communicated to the Foreign Ministers at Washington and the Consuls at New-York; and the replies of the representatives of some of the principal Powers of Europe are subjoined, as showing the cordial interest manifested in the enterprise from the outset.

The leading Foreign Papers also manifested a cordial desire to forward the objects of the undertaking. The *Handels-Zeitung*, the *Abend-Zeitung*, and other German papers, the *Courrier des Etats Unis* and the *Eco d'Italia*, were prominent in lending their services to the cause.

*(Translation.)*

FRENCH LEGATION AT WASHINGTON, }  
 NEWPORT, July 30, 1852. }

SIR:—I was absent from Washington when the letter which you did me the honor to address to me on the 16th inst. arrived. I found it at Newport, and hasten to acknowledge receipt thereof. I feel the importance which the commerce of every nation ought to attach to being properly represented at the World's Fair, which is to take place next year at New-York; and in this sense I have written to my government, inclosing the circular which you addressed to me.

The enlightened Government of the Prince-President will not fail to appreciate, in a proper manner, the results of this universal exhibition that may be expected to benefit the commerce of the world. I do not doubt that my government will afford hearty support to this vast enterprise to which you are devoting your care. Receive, Sir, the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments.

(Signed,) SARTIGES.

TO THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq.

*(Copy.)*

PRUSSIAN LEGATION AT WASHINGTON, }  
 July 26, 1852. }

SIR:—I was favored with your letter of the 16th inst., inclosing several copies of the circular published by the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, which will take place at New-York, in May, 1853. I have called the attention of my government to this interesting subject, and have no doubt that the industry of Prussia will be duly represented at that Exhibition. I have the honor to be, Sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed,) F. V. GEROLT.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., President of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, at New-York.

*(Translation.)*

BELGIAN LEGATION AT WASHINGTON, }  
 GEORGETOWN, July 24, 1852. }

SIR:—I will hasten to make known to the government of the King the Universal Exhibition which is preparing at New-York for next year. You may rest assured, Sir, that measures will be taken without delay in Belgium, that our industry may be represented in your Crystal Palace in such a manner as to secure the attention of the American people. As I still think of going to Europe before winter, I shall have the honor, Sir, to see you on my passing through New-York, and shall be delighted if I can

be of any service to you during my stay in Belgium. Receive, Sir, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

(Signed,)

DE BOSCH SPENCER.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., New-York.

(*Copy.*)

IMPERIAL AUSTRIAN CONSULATE, }  
NEW-YORK, July 22, 1852. }

SIR :—In due possession of your esteemed favor of the 13th inst., by which you desire that the subject of your circular of the 12th inst. might be brought to the notice of the Imperial Government, the Austrian Consul General begs most respectfully to inform you, that he has forwarded several copies of that circular to his Excellency the Minister of Commerce, at Vienna, accompanied by such remarks as the high importance of the subject demands. If the Austrian Consul General is to judge by the lively interest taken in the London Exhibition, by the Austrian manufacturers and artists, and their great desire to participate in the trade of the United States, as it manifests itself at every opportunity, he would venture to say that their contributions to the New-York Fair will be very considerable, and of a character representing the state of manufactures of the country, as well as the fine arts. There is but little doubt, that the tendency of the New-York Exhibition, towards an important improvement in the commerce and trade between Europe and the United States, will be greatly appreciated by public men on the other side of the Atlantic, and that, in a purely practical point of view, it will be acknowledged to present facilities for the introduction of new articles of merchandise, which could not possibly be attained by any other means. Your undertaking, therefore, enlists of itself the attention of those men whose duty it is to facilitate the development of the national resources of the country, over whose affairs they preside; and it invites the enterprising man of business to exertions in your support, which promise to produce considerable moral and pecuniary advantages to himself. The Austrian Consul General, in expressing his conviction that your enterprise will meet the most satisfactory reception on the part of the Austrian manufacturers, has the honor to subscribe himself,

Your very obedient servant,

(Signed,)

AUGUST BELMONT.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., President of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSULATE, }  
 NEW-YORK, July 14, 1852. }

SIR :—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., accompanied by some copies of a circular setting forth the objects and plan of your Association, which you request me to bring before the notice of my government.

I assure you that I have taken great pleasure in complying with your request, by making known to her Majesty's government the proposed Exhibition, so creditable to those intelligent and courageous inhabitants of this city, who have conceived and undertaken to manage it, and so well calculated to advance science and the arts, to promote and improve productive industry, to excite amicable rivalry, and to establish mutual goodwill among the people of all nations. I have transmitted a copy of your note, and the copies of the circular with which you furnished me, to the Earl of Malmesbury, her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,

(Signed,)

ANTH. BARCLAY.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., President of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, 53 Broadway, New-York.

An important letter had also been before this received from the Turkish Ambassador at London, which was as follows :

(*Translation.*)

LONDON, June 14, 1852.

SIR :—Having submitted to the Imperial Government the letter which you did me the honor to address to me, under date of 24th of March, I have received a dispatch from his Excellency Ali Pacha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in which he announces to me, that the proposition for Ottoman industry to participate in the Exhibition which is to take place at New-York, has met with the high approbation of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and that, in consequence, a government steamer will be specially destined to convey from thence the products of the empire. In communicating to you this imperial determination, I am charged to beg you, Sir, to be kind enough to give me detailed information as to the formalities which will have to be complied with, as far as regards the forwarding of the products, as well as upon their arrival at New-York, in order to avoid, by such preparatory measures, all kind of inconvenience that might result from ignorance of the regulations of the Association. Accept, Sir, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

(Signed,)

C. MUSURUS.

To Mr. C. BUSCHKE, Agent General of the Universal Exhibition at New-York.

In the mean time steps had been taken to obtain a proper plan for the building to be erected. And here serious difficulties had presented themselves. The matter of iron construction on a large scale was and is almost entirely new in this country. No edifice entirely of iron yet exists in the United States, and the want of experience on the part of both architects and engineers presented serious obstacles. Many ingenious plans were offered. Sir JOSEPH PAXTON, with great liberality, furnished one of singular beauty, but the peculiar shape of the ground to be occupied rendered it impossible to use it. The late lamented Mr. DOWNING—a name dear to this country—offered another of striking ingenuity, but this was also excluded by the terms of the grant from the city, which, as has been said, peremptorily required that the building should be exclusively of iron and glass. Mr. LEOPOLD EIDITZ presented a plan with a suspension roof, intended to obviate the difficulty of spanning great widths by arches. Mr. JAMES BOGARDUS submitted one of a circular building consisting of successive colonnades, placed one over the other, somewhat resembling the Colosseum at Rome, and involving a new mode of joining for which he has obtained a patent. Mr. JULIUS W. ADAMS presented one of a great octagonal vault or dome, supported by ribs made of fascies or clusters of gas pipe. Several other plans were offered, of great beauty and originality. The task of selection was difficult and delicate; the Board, however, after much consultation, finally determined on one submitted by MESSRS. CARSTENSEN and GILDEMEISTER. Mr. Gildemeister has been

some time established among us, and is not only an architect, but an artist. Mr. Carstensen is the designer of the Tivoli and Casino of Copenhagen, the principal public grounds of that city, and had at this time recently arrived here.

The plan was adopted on the 26th of August, and no time was lost in putting the work under way.

The masonry contracts were signed with Messrs. SMITH & STEWART and Mr. LORENZO MOSES, on the 4th of September; and on the 25th of the same month the principal part of the iron work was contracted for. By the masonry contracts, the foundation was to be delivered on the 21st of October, and by the iron agreements the delivery of castings was to commence at the same time. In order to secure uniformity, a pattern shop was established in the city of New-York, under the charge of Messrs. SHEPARD & PURVIS, and to insure dispatch, the first contracts for the delivery of the iron castings were divided among Messrs. JACKSON, STILLMAN, ALLEN & Co., HOGG & DELAMATER, BUCKUP & PUGH, and F. S. CLAXTON, of New-York; SLATER & STEEL, of Jersey City; the MATTEAWAN COMPANY, of Fishkill; the Messrs. TEMPLINS, of Easton, Pennsylvania; BETTS, PUSEY, JONES & SEAL, of Wilmington, Delaware; and MILLER and WILLIAMSON, of Albany.

We shall now go into the details of the site and size of the building. Reservoir Square, on which it is erected, lies at the northern extremity of the city of New-York, west of the Croton Distributing Reservoir, and between that mighty mass of stone and the Sixth Avenue. The precise distance from the Reservoir to the

Sixth Avenue is 445 feet, and the width, north and south, from Fortieth to Forty-second street, is 455 feet.

It will be observed that this piece of ground is nearly square. The shape is unfavorable for architectural purposes. In other respects, no better spot for the purpose could be found in the city. The Sixth Avenue Railroad runs directly past it; the Fourth Avenue Railroad runs near it; and it lies immediately in the vicinity of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Avenues, the main thoroughfares of that part of the city.

The main features of the building are as follows: It is, with the exception of the floor, entirely constructed of iron and glass. The general idea of the edifice is a Greek cross, surmounted by a dome at the intersection. Each diameter of the cross will be 365 feet 5 inches long. There will be three similar entrances: one on the Sixth Avenue, one on Fortieth, and one on Forty-second street. Each entrance will be 47 feet wide, and that on the Sixth Avenue will be approached by a flight of eight steps; over each front is a large semi-circular fan-light, 41 feet wide and 21 feet high, answering to the arch of the nave. Each arm of the cross is on the ground plan 149 feet broad. This is divided into a central nave and two aisles, one on each side; the nave 41 feet wide, each aisle 54 feet wide. The central portion or nave is carried up to the height of 67 feet, and the semi-circular arch by which it is spanned is 41 feet broad. There are thus in effect two arched naves crossing each other at right angles, 41 feet broad, 67 feet high to the crown of the arch, and 365 feet long; and on each side of these naves is an aisle 54 feet broad,



and 45 feet high. The exterior of the ridgeway of the nave is 71 feet. Each aisle is covered by a gallery of its own width, and 24 feet from the floor. The central dome is 100 feet in diameter, 68 feet inside from the floor to the spring of the arch, and 118 feet to the crown; and on the outside, with the lantern, 149 feet. The exterior angles of the building are ingeniously filled up with a triangular lean-to 24 feet high, which gives the ground plan an octagonal shape, each side or face being 149 feet wide. At each angle is an octagonal tower 8 feet in diameter, and 75 feet high.

Ten large, and eight winding stair-cases connect the principal floor with the gallery, which opens on the three balconies that are situated over the entrance-halls, and afford ample space for flower decorations, statues, vases, &c. The ten principal stair-cases consist of two flights of steps with two landing places to each; the eight winding stair-cases are placed in the octagonal towers, which lead also to small balconies on the tops of the towers and to the roof of the building.

The building contains on the ground floor 111,000 square feet of space, and in its galleries, which are 54 feet wide, 62,000 square feet more, making a total area of 173,000 square feet for the purposes of exhibition. There are thus on the ground floor two acres and a half, or exactly 2 52-100; in the galleries one acre and 44-100; total, within an inconsiderable fraction, four acres.

There are on the ground floor 190 octagonal cast-iron columns, 21 feet above the floor, and 8 inches diameter, cast hollow, of different thicknesses, from half an inch

to one inch. These columns receive the cast-iron girders. These are 26 1-3 feet long and 3 feet high, and serve to sustain the galleries and the wrought-iron construction of the roof, as well as to brace the whole structure in every direction. The girders, as well as the second story columns, are fastened to the columns in the first story, by connecting pieces of the same octagonal shape as the columns, 3 feet 4 inches high, having proper flanges and lugs to fasten all pieces together by bolts. The number of lower floor girders is 252, besides 12 wrought-iron girders of the same height, and 41 feet span over a part of the nave. The second story contains 148 columns, of the same shape as those below, and 17 feet 7 inches high. These receive another tier of girders, numbering 160, for the support of the roofs of the aisles, each nave being covered by 16 cast-iron semi-circular arches, each composed of 4 pieces.

The dome is supported by 24 columns, which go up above the second story to a height of 62 feet above the floor, and support a combination of wrought-iron arches and girders, on which rests a cast-iron bed-plate, so constructed as to receive the 32 ribs of the dome. The light is communicated to the dome through the lantern, as well as from the sides, on which 32 escutcheons, in colored glass, representing the arms of the Union and its several States, or the emblems of the different nations, form a part of the decoration.

The quantity of iron to be used for the building will amount to about 1,250 tons. The roof will cover an area of 144,000 square feet. The glass for the building will amount to 39,000 square feet, in 9,027 panes, 16 by 34 or 38 inches.

On entering this building, the observer's eye will be greeted by the vista of an arched nave, 41 feet wide, 67 feet high, and 365 feet long; while on approaching the centre, he will find himself under a dome 100 feet across, and 118 feet high.

It is certain, therefore, that the edifice will be larger, and more effective in its interior view, than anything in the country.

The general mode of erection by base pieces, columns, connecting pieces and girders, is the same with that of the great Hyde Park building. But the construction of the arched nave and of the dome is of course entirely peculiar, and the general effect of the building is completely different. The London building was certainly deficient in architectural effect. The form of the New-York edifice affords the requisite scope for a pleasing variety of embellishment, by which all monotony can be avoided, and allows a very economical use of the ground. The dome, independent of its effect in the interior arrangement of the edifice, will give height and majesty to the exterior.

The following are the objects which the architects appear to have striven to combine in their plan :

1. The greatest possible area compatible with the ground employed.
2. Perfect safety and elegance of construction.
3. A well calculated and pleasing admission of light.
4. A variety of *coup d'œil* in the interior.

This building will compare, in point of size, and it is thought of beauty, with some of the greatest edifices of the old world; and until the extension of the Capitol at

Washington is completed, it will be altogether the largest in this country. It is hoped that it will be a great permanent architectural ornament to the city.

The foreign branch of the undertaking was, as has been said, intrusted to Mr. BUSCHEK; but it seemed to the Directors that something should be done to bring the enterprise prominently before the citizens of the British possessions on this continent, and they consequently, early in September, decided on the appointment of Mr. JAMES WHITMAN as an Agent for the Canadas, Nova Scotia, and New-Brunswick.. Mr. WHITMAN immediately entered on the duties of his agency, and was received with great cordiality in the cities of Toronto, Montreal, and Quebec, the most ready desire to co-operate in the enterprise being manifested on all hands. Mr. WHITMAN has visited Newfoundland; he is now in Nova Scotia, and from there he will proceed to New-Brunswick. He has displayed great zeal and energy in the performance of the duties intrusted to him, and there seems good reason to believe that the people of the British Provinces will take an active part in the Exhibition.

Having thus secured a corps of competent Engineers and a plan of great beauty, having intrusted the construction of the edifice to competent hands, and having also organized the Foreign Department of the enterprise on a scale commensurate with the dignity and importance of the undertaking, the Association turned its attention more directly to the business classes of our own country; and in order to impress upon the great commercial community how directly their interests were

identified with those of the Exhibition, they published the following circular. It was issued in English, German, French and Spanish, to a large number of importing houses, and proved of great utility:

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY  
OF ALL NATIONS,

No. 53 BROADWAY, New-York, }  
28th Sept., 1852. }

I address you, in behalf of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, for the purpose of securing your co-operation in the objects of the enterprise.

The building on Reservoir Square is in such a state of forwardness, and the iron work is so far advanced, that we are able, with entire confidence, to repeat to you the assurance already given to the public, that the Exhibition will take place in May of the year 1853.

In order to give our enterprise that publicity in Europe which is essential to its success, and at the same time to secure order and uniformity in our operations, we have appointed as our sole agent Mr. CHARLES BUSCHEK, of No. 6 Charing Cross, London, who has been long domiciled in England, and whose experience as one of the Commissioners of the great London Exhibition of 1851, as well as his social position, capacity and character, furnishes the most ample guarantees that the work intrusted to him will be thoroughly done.

We now address you for the purpose of calling your particular attention to the subject, and of inviting your assistance in such manner as shall seem most practicable to you after our general objects and wishes are stated.

We have already received from all the authorities in this country, whether municipal, state or federal, every aid and encouragement in their power to give, and we have been equally fortunate in securing the strongest expressions of sympathy and good-will from the principal representatives of the European powers.

We think, therefore, that we have every reason to expect manifestations of a similar spirit from gentlemen as intimately familiar as you are with the condition and wants of both hemispheres, and to whom the interests of neither can be indifferent. We believe it to be unnecessary to use any elaborate arguments to persuade you that an Exhibition of this kind, if made what it ought to be, cannot be productive of other than the best results to the commerce and peace of the world. We are equally satisfied that your position here must make you wish that it should succeed, and that your strong European associations and ties must also render you desirous that the industry of the Old World should be fully represented.

But in addition to the general interest which, we have no doubt, as active men and spirited citizens, you will feel in the general objects of the enterprise, your position gives you a clear inducement to take such steps as will give the fullest development to your operations.

Desirous not to avail ourselves in any undue way of its corporate facilities, this Association has from the outset avowed its determination to have nothing whatever to do with the sale of articles exhibited; we do not intend in the slightest degree to interfere with the legitimate occupations and interests of either the retail dealers or importers of our city.

In order that we may know precisely the relative extent of room required by European and American Industry, it is essential that all applications for space be arranged with Mr. Buschek. And as this Association advances the freight and insurance on goods sent from Europe, (to be refunded in case of withdrawal,) it is equally indispensable that, if foreign exhibitors wish to avail themselves of this advantage, the time, mode and terms of forwarding be also arranged with him. Mr. Buschek is our general and sole agent for the purpose of securing the co-operation of European manufacturers, and of settling the necessary details in relation thereto; but the whole matter of consignment and disposition of the goods is left, where it belongs, to the regular industry of our citizens; and it is plain that just so far as our enterprise succeeds, just so far the business relations of our people will be extended and their interests promoted.

Having already, in our general circular, requested all exhibitors to name an agent for the receipt of their goods when withdrawn from the Exhibition, it remains with them of course to select their own consignee.

We take the liberty of inclosing a copy of our general prospectus, which we confirm in all particulars, and which we will furnish you in French or in any language that you may desire; and our immediate request is, that you will have the goodness to call the attention of your correspondents to the enterprise, and impress on them the importance of availing themselves of this opportunity for the exhibition of the products of their industry.

If there is any other mode in which we can have your co-operation, we shall be most happy to know it.

As we are desirous to know how far the views contained in this communication meet with your concurrence, we shall be greatly obliged by the favor of a reply.

I have the honor to be,

with great respect,

your obed't serv't,

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *Pres't.*

This circular was followed by another more particularly addressed to the producing classes of this country. It was of the following tenor :

ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS,

OFFICE, No. 53 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, }  
11th October, 1852. }

I address you, on behalf of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, to invite your co-operation in the general objects of the enterprise.

The building intended for the purposes of the Exhibition, constructed entirely of iron and glass, will be, it is believed, the largest and most beautiful edifice in the country. It covers, on the ground floor, two and a half acres, and, with the galleries, the whole space is four acres. The mason-work is far advanced, and is to be completed on the 21st October. The main part of the iron-work is contracted for, and the castings are to be delivered from the 15th October to the 15th December. We have it in our power, therefore, to assure you, as we have already stated to the public, that the Exhibition will certainly be open on the 2d of May, 1853.

You are thus offered an unequalled opportunity of exhibiting to the vast population of this country such of your productions as you send us, free of all charge of every kind whatever from the time that they are delivered into our custody until withdrawn.

The Association has already announced that their objects are limited exclusively to *Exhibition*. They have no interest whatever, direct or indirect, in the final disposition to be made of any article that may be displayed.

You are, no doubt, aware that we have received all the assistance from the public authorities that we have desired. The City has given us the lease of Reservoir Square, the State has granted us a Charter, and the Federal authorities have engaged that the building shall be made a Bonded Warehouse for the purpose of receiving foreign articles without paying duty so long as they remain in it.

We have the strongest assurances of support from the Representatives in this country of the principal Foreign Powers; and we are receiving daily confirmation of the general interest that the subject is exciting among the manufacturers of Europe. A large number of articles of high value are already secured, and we have no doubt whatever that we shall have a very extensive representation of all the branches of foreign industry.

The measures which we have adopted will thus secure two great objects we have desired to attain, viz. : the erection of a building which will be a great architectural ornament to our city, and the exhibition in that building of the products of the industry of the Old World ; still, we shall fall far short of our mark if we do not equally succeed in obtaining the fullest and most extensive co-operation of American industry ; our Exhibition would be extremely defective—it would be very inferior, both in interest and in utility, to what we mean to make it—if the great resources of the people of our own country were not fully displayed in it.

We believe it to be unnecessary to urge upon you the arguments on this subject, which we are sure will present themselves to the mind of every intelligent American producer ; your position in the world of American industry, your own interest, and what is due to an enterprise devised and meant to be carried out with no narrow views, but on a large scale of public usefulness, all entitle us to entertain the fullest conviction that you will send us some of the choicest specimens of your skill, and that you will urge your friends to do the same.

We do not doubt that such will be the result when the subject is once brought fairly and fully before you ; and our only reason for addressing you thus particularly is that the matter may not be overlooked in the press of daily business, and that you may give the subject attention in time to be fully prepared.

We inclose our General Circular, and also a Form of Application for Space, to which we beg your attention. Copies of these or of this letter, if you desire them to send to your friends or correspondents, can be had at this office.

In order that we may know on what extent of co-operation we may depend, the favor of a reply, on or before the 15th day of December next, is asked.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obed't serv't,

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President.*

The general organization of the enterprise was thus completed, and all classes invited to co-operate in its objects. But other steps were deemed necessary to render its success certain. For that purpose, early in October, the President of the Association made to the late lamented Mr. Webster, Secretary of State of the United States, a request that he would address the rep-



representatives of the Government of the United States in Europe, and ask them to assist Mr. Buschek by their advice and countenance as far as could properly be done.

Mr. Webster was at the time more ill than was known by those who addressed him. But with that activity of mind and large comprehension which distinguished him to the last, he at once saw and recognized the importance of this enterprise, and replied to Mr. Sedgwick as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, October 12, 1852. }

SIR :—I have received your favor of Oct. 7, and I have examined with care the papers accompanying it, as well as the sketch of the building which you have been good enough to send ; the latter appears to me very beautiful. Your name, and those of the gentlemen associated with you, are sufficient guarantees that the enterprise will be conducted with energy, fidelity and capacity ; and there can be no doubt that an exhibition of the kind you contemplate, if properly carried out, will be of very general interest and utility. You do not overrate my desire to promote your views. Of course I cannot, as a member of the Government of the United States, give you any other aid than you have already received from the Customs Department, by making your building a bonded warehouse ; but I will write to the representatives of the United States at the principal Courts of Europe, stating to them strongly my sense of the importance of your enterprise, and the numerous reasons in my mind why they should give your agent, Mr. Buschek, all the aid and support that they properly can. I am, Sir, with great respect, your ob't serv't,

DANIEL WEBSTER.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq., New-York.

The promise contained in this letter was fully performed, and on the same day Mr. Webster addressed the following communication to our Foreign Ministers at St. Petersburg, London, Vienna, Berlin and Paris. His letter was as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, October 12, 1852. }

SIR :—I have been applied to by Mr. Theodore Sedgwick, the President of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, in behalf of the effort now making in New-York, for the erection in that city, next year, of a World's Fair, analogous to that which was in London in 1851.

The enterprise is in the hands of some of the most respectable of our citizens. Their names are to me, as I know they will be to you, a sufficient guarantee not only that the affair will be carried out with energy and fidelity, but that it will be treated with large and liberal views as a matter of great public interest and utility.

They have, as they inform me, appointed Mr. Charles Buschek, of London, the Austrian Commissioner at the Exhibition in 1851, their European agent, and my particular object in addressing you this letter, is to convey to you my hope that you will do all you properly can to forward Mr. Buschek's views, and to promote the general objects of the Association.

The Government, through the proper department at New-York, have promised that the building shall be made a bonded warehouse, and of course can go no further in the way of official aid; but I am satisfied that the complete and triumphant success of this enterprise will be a subject of great satisfaction to all our people, and that it will expect that the Association should be supported in every legitimate and proper way.

I am, Sir, respectfully your obedient servant,

DANIEL WEBSTER.

HON. J. R. INGERSOLL.

It is proper here to pause for a moment, and while recognizing the public spirit and private courtesy which dictated these communications, to deplore the loss which the country has sustained by the death of this eminent man.

In the mean time the progress of the erection of the edifice had been going steadily on. The masonry, with its numerous piers to support the columns, and its well-arranged system of sewerage, was completed in October at the period specified. The iron castings began to come upon the ground about the same time,

and on the 30th of October the ceremony of raising the first column took place. We give the account of it that appeared at the time in the daily papers :

The erection of the first column of the Crystal Palace took place on Reservoir Square at noon on Saturday. The interest in and importance of the occasion attracted a large concourse of citizens. There must have been at least two thousand persons present.

There was a large number of distinguished citizens upon the platform erected beside the pillar. Among those present we noticed his Excellency Gov. Hunt, his Honor the Mayor, Archbishop Hughes, Felix Foresti, Gen. Tallmadge, Henry Meigs, C. Crolius, ex-Senator, J. A. Bunting, Rev. Dr. Peet, Lambert Suydam, Hon. Judge Betts, Senators McMurray and Beekman, and several other invited guests. Gen. Tallmadge and others were present as a deputation from the American Institute.

Dodworth's Band was present during the proceedings, and played delightfully.

When the pillar was raised, by means of a derrick, the Governor directed it to its place, amid the enthusiastic cheering of those present and the firing of cannon, the band the while playing a national air.

Theodore Sedgwick, Esq., then addressed the Governor in the following terms :

GOVERNOR HUNT: In the name of the Directors of the Association, I thank you cordially and respectfully for the trouble which you have taken to honor this occasion with your presence. Our thanks are also eminently due to the City Government, not only for their attendance here to-day, but more for the sagacious foresight with which they have extended their liberal aid to the enterprise in its infancy. We are also proud to see among our friends the officers of two societies—one from our own, and one from a sister State—which have done so much to raise the aims and promote the interests of American Industry, to open the path in which we are now treading. The general objects to which this building will be destined are so familiar to us all that I need not dwell upon them. Our arrangements are so far advanced that we can speak with confidence as to our ultimate success. It is sure to strike the mind of the European producer that he has substantial objects to attain by sending specimens of his skill here which no European country can afford. On the other hand, the American manufacturer, who has comparatively little but honor to gain by sending the produce of his skill to Europe, has a clear and distinct inducement to exhibit his goods here. If no unforeseen event occurs, we shall have it in our power to make such an exhibition of the costly, artistic and luxurious products of the Old World as has never yet

been seen among us. These considerations will produce their results, and we are equally confident that the industry of our country, with that fearless energy which, perhaps more than any other one thing, is a distinguishing trait in our national character, will eagerly enter into a contest from which, in every respect, nothing but good can flow. I shall say on this head no more. Those whose eyes, like mine, were delighted by the surpassing glories of the London Exhibition—who know the power, opulence and varied resources of the Old World—who know what these creatures of genius, the French, are trying to effect, may well pause before they make vaunts for the future. Suffice it, we shall do every thing that industry and fidelity can accomplish. Nor shall I enlarge on the benefits of an exhibition of this kind. There is no doubt whatever that there yet exists no similar means for extending the circle of knowledge and taste—above all, for enlarging and increasing that mutual good-will and confidence which is the surest bulwark of national independence, and the only guaranty of international peace. [Cheers.]

Permit me, sir, to say a word respecting the building itself. We intend; and I believe it is not too much to claim, that the palace itself shall make an epoch in the architecture of our city. We believe that it will give an impulse to construction in the material of iron that will be of the greatest service to that interest. Iron constructions have already been carried far forward by a most intelligent and accomplished mechanic—Mr. James Bogardus—and I believe that the experience of this building will give it a great additional impulse. Its superior lightness, durability, cheapness and facility of construction, give it immense advantages over any other material. We are erecting an edifice that will cover, on the ground floor, two and a half acres, and it will be done in the winter, in about six months, for a sum not much varying from \$200,000. If any one compares this time and the time with what would be required for a building of any other material except wood, the immense superiority of iron is most perceptible. [Applause.] But there are, sir, ulterior considerations which I wish clearly to state. The large cities of the elder world, especially on the Continent, possess great galleries for popular instruction and entertainment. It is at first sight remarkable, though in fact easily intelligible, that in a country reposing entirely on popular power, comparatively nothing is done on a great public scale for the pleasure and instruction of our adult people. We have no galleries, no parks. This is not the place to say anything in favor of a park, though an object which should be dear to the heart of every New-Yerker. But I desire, in regard to the other objects, to point out how easy it will be hereafter to convert this building into a great People's Gallery of Art. Its structure is eminently adapted for the purpose. We stand here on

the city's ground, and it will be completely in the power of the City hereafter to accomplish this result. Long after our Association shall have disappeared, I hope this building may stand—as long as yonder massive and majestic creation ; and like that, in the hands of the public authorities, be one of those monuments which make the Government dear to the people. [Cheers.] Allow me to say a few words of our purposes. The undertaking is a private one—fostered by no governmental aid ; but the interests are so numerous and divided, that not the slightest color is afforded for the charge of speculation. There are, I venture to say, very few undertakings of equal magnitude which are represented by so large a number of parties, and it thus becomes practicable to impress upon the direction and management of the enterprise, that broad, liberal, impartial, and, as it were, national character, which is essential to its proper development. If our success is what we expect and intend it shall be, we shall claim the honor of it for our institutions—those institutions which enable private individuals to accomplish what in other countries vast governmental efforts are required to effect. We shall claim the honor for the country and for the people ; for that mixture of individual energy and practical accommodation which gives such wonderful efficiency to the American character ; for that public spirit and private good feeling of which we have such striking evidence here to-day—bringing together at this moment men of all parties, to work together for a common object of general interest. [Cheers.] Other considerations, sir, yet remain, which, at some other time, I shall ask higher and holier personages to develop, but which I cannot now altogether overlook. When this structure shall be raised—when its lofty dome shall have rushed upward to the point where that flag now floats—when its crystal surface shall reflect in streams of radiance our warm American sun—when its graceful and majestic interior shall be filled with the choicest products of both worlds—our minds will soar upward beyond and above all the material considerations to which I have alluded, and will recognize our own nothingness, and the infinite superiority of the Power by whose favor we are permitted to do what little we effect. And we shall then unite to pour forth our thanks for His mercies, and our supplications for His forgiveness and protection. [Loud cheers.]

The Governor immediately replied as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT : Availing myself of the invitation so kindly extended to me by the Association over which you preside, I have come to participate in the appropriate ceremonies of this occasion, and to manifest

the sincere interest and approval with which I regard your noble undertaking.

You have now reared the first column of an edifice intended to attract the productions of genius, industry, and art, from all the civilized nations of the world. This liberal design is in harmony with the prevailing spirit and tendency of the age in which we live, and its successful completion will form a conspicuous landmark in the history of American progress. It is a generous conception, alike honorable to the public spirit and patriotism of the citizens forming the Association, and important in its influence upon the advancement and happiness of society.

The conquests already made, and the increasing interest evinced by our countrymen in the culture of those useful arts which promote the physical prosperity and moral elevation of a people, are a source of just pride and encouragement to the American statesman.

By the blessing of Providence we are permitted to work out our destiny in a period of profound peace. For more than a third of a century the civilized world has been exempt from those destructive wars and convulsions which had so long wasted the best energies of the human race. Nobler purposes engage the thoughts of men and the councils of nations.

Instead of meeting in battle array, and spreading havoc and desolation over the face of the earth, a kindlier rivalry prevails, and Governments cope with each other in a more generous spirit of emulation; in works of beneficence and improvement; in the expansion of commerce, the encouragement of industry, and the triumphs of peaceful invention.

People widely separated from each other by intervening seas and diversities of language and institutions are now drawn nearer together by rapid and constant commercial intercourse. Remote countries are enabled to confer inestimable benefits upon each other by a free interchange of useful discoveries and improvements, thus stimulating industry and skill throughout the world, each imparting to all the fruits of its own civilization, and (above all) diffusing over the globe the spirit of universal brotherhood, which, in God's good time, shall unite the human family by the cordial ties of sympathy and concord.

When considered in a mere political aspect, the wonderful display of the Industry of all Nations, exhibited in England last year, must be regarded as one of the most important events in modern history.

I rejoice to witness the enlightened efforts of my own countrymen to emulate so noble an example.

The prosecution and success of the enterprise, now so auspiciously begun, cannot fail to exert a salutary influence, and to produce the most valuable results.

It will elevate the national character abroad, and advance our best interests at home.

It will stimulate our people to new and higher efforts, until we shall finally attain to an equality with the older nations in every useful and ornamental art. It will promote the development and improvement of those natural advantages, so varied and remarkable, with which our country is favored; and furnish another proof of the elevating influence of free institutions.

In conclusion, Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Association, permit me to congratulate you upon this auspicious commencement. The whole country will rejoice in the consummation of your great purpose. Accept my sincere wishes that your labors in the work of civilization and beneficent progress may be crowned with the success which is due to so bright an example of disinterested public spirit.

The Mayor, Mr. KINGSLAND, followed, in a few brief remarks expressive of his sense of the importance of the undertaking, and his sincere desire to see it carried out to a most successful completion.

General TALLMADGE, on the part of the American Institute, offered the managers of the Crystal Palace his warmest congratulations upon the raising of the first pillar of their edifice, and that, too, under such auspicious circumstances. The American Institute (he said) was glad to find such worthy comrades coöperating with them to advance the general prosperity of the country.

Appropriate airs were then played by the band, and the large assemblage shortly afterwards went their way rejoicing in the event of the day, with hearty wishes for the successful completion of the New-York Crystal Palace.

The enterprise was therefore fully under way, and the Directors might perhaps have contented themselves with the steps they had taken to give organization and publicity to the undertaking.

There still, however, appeared to them something more to be done to secure the fullest co-operation of all classes of our own people; and on the 10th of November the following circular was prepared for the organization of local committees in the principal manufacturing and commercial cities of the Union:

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.

OFFICE, NO. 53 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, }  
 10th November, 1852. }

SIR:—I take the liberty of inclosing to you, with this, various documents which will give you the details of the undertaking organized in this city for the purpose of making an Exhibition of the products of the Industry of all Nations. I forward also a Lithographed Plan of the Building, which will, I think, serve to show you that the means employed by us are not unworthy of the end at which we aim.

It is extremely desirable that the Industry of our own country should be fully represented; for whatever interest the products of the artistic talent or luxurious taste of the Old World may excite, certainly nothing within the general scope of the undertaking can exceed in importance the development of our own products and the advancement of our own Manufacturing Skill. In order, therefore, to bring the enterprise more thoroughly and more familiarly to the knowledge of the different sections of the country, we have adopted a resolution to raise Local Committees in the principal manufacturing and commercial centres of the United States; and my immediate purpose is, respectfully, to request your co-operation with us by becoming a member of such Committee for your section of the Union. The principal places in which we have, thus far, determined to raise these Committees are Boston, Philadelphia, Charleston, New-Orleans, St. Louis, Detroit, and Cincinnati.

We hope, Sir, that the general interest of the subject and the aid to which every liberal effort to promote the resources of our People seems entitled will induce you to give this matter your attention. We can, we think, give no better proof of our earnest desire to make this Exhibition both creditable to the country and useful to its great interests than by endeavoring to secure the assistance of our most eminent and capable men. I pray the favor of an early reply.

And I am, Sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President*.

In this case, as in others, the Directors of the Association met with a ready and cordial response from all parts of the country. The Committees thus far have been organized as follows:

The Committee organized at Boston is intended to cover a considerable part of New-England, and consists



of SAMUEL LAWRENCE, Esq., Chairman ; N. HALE, JAMES W. PAIGE, OTIS TUFTS, GEORGE S. HILLARD, MARSHALL P. WILDER, J. T. STEVENSON, Boston ; Gov. HUBBARD, of New-Hampshire ; Gov. PAINE, of Vermont ; Hon. RUEL W. MURRAY, of Maine ; EZRA LINCOLN, Secretary.

The Connecticut Committee consists of gentlemen from various parts of the State, and is as follows :

General JAMES T. PRATT, Rocky Hill ; NORMAN PORTER, Berlin ; L. B. PAGE, Hon. PHILIP RIPLEY, Hon. HENRY C. DEMING, F. A. BROWN, Hon. JAMES DIXON, SAMUEL WOODRUFF, SAMUEL ASHBURNER, Hartford ; Hon. LA FAYETTE S. FOSTER, Norwich ; JAMES BREWSTER, Hon. RALPH I. INGERSOLL, Hon. JAMES D. DANA, ELI W. BLAKE, New-Haven ; SAMUEL STEARNS, Middletown ; GEORGE M. LANDERS, New-Britain ; P. T. BARNUM, Bridgeport ; PHILO PRATT, R. LINSLEY, Meriden ; PHINEAS TALCOTT, Vernon ; S. W. COLLINS, Collinsville ; W. H. SCOVILLE, Waterbury ; JOHN TRACY, Willimantic ; EDWARD N. SHELTON, HENRY L. ATTWATER, Birmingham ; EDWARD S. MITCHELL, Wallingford ; JOHN S. MITCHELL, Waterbury ; W. De Forest, Humphreysville.

The St. Louis Committee consists of the Hon. LUTHER M. KENSETT, CHARLES P. CHOUTEAU, LEWIS V. BOGY, Dr. H. A. PROUT, THOMAS S. O'SULLIVAN, WM. H. BELCHER, A. B. CHAMBERS, THORNTON GRIMSLEY, A. S. MITCHELL, THOMAS ALLEN, JAMES HARRISON, JAMES MCPHERSON, HUDSON E. BRIDGE.

The New-Orleans Committee consists of LUCIUS C. DUNCAN, Esq., Chairman ; JAMES ROBB, Hon. E. LASERE, W. A. GASQUET, W. N. MERCER, ALEXANDER WALKER, H. R. W. HILL, A. F. AXSON, MAUNSEL WHITE, A. M.

HARLBROOK, C. J. LEEDS, NEWTON RICHARDS; J. D. B. DE BOW, Secretary.

The Baltimore Committee consists of ROBERT M. MC-LANE, Esq., Chairman; JOSHUA VANSANT, WILLIAM BOSE, JOHN H. B. LATROBE, THOMAS WINANS, HENRY TIFFANY, JAMES MURRAY, WENDEL BOLLMAN, L. A. B. WALBACH, Captain U. S. A., CHARLES E. WETHERED, GEORGE W. DOBBIN; WILLIAM PRESCOTT SMITH, Secretary.

The Pennsylvania Committee consists of JOHN PRICE WETHERILL, Chairman; His Excellency, WILLIAM BIGLER, Governor of the Commonwealth; Hon. Chief Justice J. S. BLACK, Hon. F. W. HUGHES, Secretary of the Commonwealth; Hon. FRED. WATTS, Carlisle; Hon. A. S. WILSON, Lewistown; Hon. JOHN H. EWING, Washington; Hon. A. L. HAYES, Lancaster; Hon. JAMES M. PORTER, Easton; B. GERHARD, GEORGE H. BURGIN, M.D., EDWIN GREBLE, WILLIAM N. LACEY, REDWOOD F. WARNER, MORTON McMICHAEL, CHARLES E. SMITH, WILLIAM C. PATTERSON, SAMUEL E. STOKES, J. T. BAILEY, AARON S. LIPPINCOTT, Philadelphia; H. H. MUHLENBURG, Reading; JAMES C. KEMPTON, Manayunk; CHARLES KELLY, Kellyville; THOMAS BAKEWELL, WILLIAM M. LYON, JOHN H. SCHOENBERGER, WILLIAM LARIMER, Jr., Pittsburg; DAVID R. STEWART, Blair County; A. B. McALPIN, Secretary.

The Cincinnati Committee consists of JOHN P. FOOTE, Esq., Chairman; MILES GREENWOOD, SAMUEL FORDICK, JACOB STRADER, JOHN C. WRIGHT, WILLIAM A. ADAMS, TIMOTHY WALKER, GEORGE E. SELLERS.

These names will be recognized as among the most

prominent in the sections of the Union to which they respectively belong. Other Committees are yet to be organized.

The construction of the edifice having by this time made considerable progress, and the scope of the enterprise being much extended and developed, the Directors issued a new circular to American Producers, of the following tenor:

OFFICE, No. 53 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, }  
6th December, 1852. }

I address you, on behalf of the Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, to invite your co-operation in the general objects of the enterprise.

The building intended for the purposes of the Exhibition, constructed entirely of iron and glass, will be, it is believed, the largest and most beautiful edifice in the country. It covers, on the ground floor, two and a half acres, and, with the galleries, the whole space is four acres. The mason work is entirely completed. The main part of the iron work is contracted for, a large part of the castings are delivered on the ground, and the construction is going steadily on. We intend, as we have already stated to the public, that the Exhibition shall be opened on the 2d of May, 1853.

You are thus offered an unequalled opportunity of exhibiting to the vast population of this country, such of your productions as you send us, free of all charge of every kind whatever, from the time that they are delivered into our custody until withdrawn.

The Association has already announced, that their objects are limited exclusively to exhibition. They have no interest whatever, direct or indirect, in the final disposition to be made of any article that may be displayed.

You are, no doubt, aware that we have received all the assistance from the public authorities that we have desired. The city has given us the lease of Reservoir Square; the State has granted us a charter, and the Federal authorities have engaged that the building shall be made a bonded warehouse, for the purpose of receiving foreign articles, without paying duty so long as they remain in it.

We have the strongest assurances of support from the representatives here of the principal foreign countries. The late lamented Mr. Webster on the 12th October, issued a private circular from the Department o

State to the representatives of this Government at the courts of the principal European powers, requesting their assistance in the objects of the undertaking, and we are receiving daily confirmation of the general interest that the subject is exciting among the manufacturers of Europe. A large number of articles of high value are already secured, and we have no doubt whatever, that we shall have a very extensive representation of all the branches of foreign industry.

The measures which we have adopted will thus secure two great objects we have desired to attain, viz.: the erection of a building which will be a great architectural ornament to our city, and the exhibition, in that building, of the products of the industry of the Old World: still, we shall fall far short of our mark, if we do not equally succeed in obtaining the fullest and most extensive coöperation of American industry; our Exhibition would be extremely defective—it would be very inferior, both in interest and in utility, to what we mean to make it—if the great resources of the people of our own country were not fully displayed in it.

We believe it to be unnecessary to urge upon you the arguments on this subject which we are sure will present themselves to the mind of every intelligent American producer. Your position in the world of American industry, your own interest, and what is due to an enterprise devised and meant to be carried out with no narrow views, but on a large scale of public usefulness, all entitle us to entertain the fullest conviction that you will send us some of the choicest specimens of your skill, and that you will urge your friends to do the same.

In making this application, we desire to have it understood that we intend to call forth a complete representation of the entire resources of the country, as well of raw materials as of manufactured articles. We hope to see abundant specimens of the cereal products of the Northern and Western States, of the cotton and sugar of the South, as well as of all the other great agricultural staples of the country. Of similar importance are the mineral treasures of our continent. We are particularly desirous that our building should contain a complete collection of the various ores which the active industry of our people is daily bringing to light, of the metals produced from them, in their various stages of development, and also of all other minerals. This would include as well coal, granite, and other similar substances, as those chemical products more especially used in the arts. The ores should be accompanied by the rocks in which they are found, and, if possible, by plans and sections of the measures in which they lie. It would also be of great interest to exhibit, either by models or descriptive drawings, the different processes employed in the reduction of the ores and the manufacture of the metals. You will readily see the importance and value of a collection of this kind,

and if the specimens are forwarded to us, we shall take such measures for their classification and arrangement as will best subserve the objects of the Exhibition, and, at the same time, add to the information and experience of our people.

We have heretofore announced, that paintings in frames will be exhibited; and we are very desirous that the sculpture of the country will be fully represented. If our wishes in these respects are answered, our building will furnish a complete illustration of the natural resources, the art and the industry of our people, and the manifestation thus made will, we are convinced, surprise even those most conversant with the progress of the Republic.

We inclose our General Circular, and also a form of Application for Space, to which we beg your attention. Copies of these or of this letter, if you desire them to send to your friends or correspondents, can be had at this office.

In order that we may know on what extent of coöperation we may depend, the favor of a reply on or before the 15th day of January, is respectfully asked. Please address your letter to William Whetten, Esq., Secretary.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President.*

Shortly afterwards, in order to secure more effectually the object of obtaining a full representation of the mineral resources of the country, the following special circular was issued:

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY  
OF ALL NATIONS,

NO. 53 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, }  
20th January, 1853. }

*To Proprietors of Mines, Metallurgists, Chemical Manufacturers, Coal Companies, and owners of Cabinets in the United States.*

It is the wish of this Association, in furtherance of the general desire, already in many ways expressed by them, to render their Exhibition not a mere display of curious and attractive objects, but practically useful and conducive to the progress of the Nation, to receive within their building a full representation of the varied and extensive Mineral resources of the United States. It is hoped that the proprietors of Mines and Metallurgists will appreciate the value and importance of such a collection of ores and minerals to civilization and the prosperity of the country, and that

they will respond to it by sending numerous and appropriate specimens, in order that this department of the Exhibition may fairly exhibit the present state or advancement of the Mining and Metallurgical Arts among us. It is only by an exhibition of this kind, in connection with the various metals and manufactured products from different and distant sections of the country, that just comparisons of excellence in the manufacture of such metals can be made.

Our vast Mineral resources, and the present advanced condition of Chemistry, and its applications to Metallurgy and the Arts, demand that these resources be adequately represented. Europe is not without collections of this kind; the Mining Schools of France and Germany, with their extensive and increasing collections, exert no small influence on the prosperity of those countries; the recent establishment of the Museum of Practical Geology and Government School of Mines in England, has already been productive of great benefit; and should this Association be instrumental in procuring mineralogical and metallurgical specimens that would form the nucleus of a similar institution, their desire to benefit the country would be in one branch at least accomplished.

The value and importance of our mines and ores can be most advantageously shown by a series or suite of specimens of moderate size, taken from different parts of the veins or deposits, so as to exhibit their average quality or richness. This will be effected by taking specimens of the poor or lean ores, as well as those of unusual richness; the series of specimens from each mine should include specimens of the minerals or associates found with the ore, and specimens of each wall-rock of the vein or bed. To make the Collection more instructive, it is desirable to have drawings exhibiting the geological formation of the localities from which ores are taken. It is important that all the specimens should be uniform in size and shape, and distinctly characteristic of the part of the vein they are intended to represent. Such a serial representation will facilitate comparisons, and combine economy of space with ease of classification and arrangement. It will also be more instructive and valuable than the exhibition of a few isolated masses of unusual magnitude or richness. Specimens of this character, in addition to the smaller specimens, would however, in some cases, be interesting.

In addition, the Association invites the exhibition of choice American minerals, possessing peculiar beauty or interest, which may be in public colleges or private collections. Such specimens will be carefully handled and arranged by competent mineralogists, so as to insure their safe return.

The specimens of metals and Chemical manufactures should, when practicable, be accompanied by samples of the raw material, the fluxes

and the residues, including slags, cinder, &c. The metals should be shown in the different stages of their manufacture, and it is very desirable that all processes employed should be illustrated by drawings and models.

All the specimens will be arranged under the charge of a competent scientific superintendent, especially employed for the purpose. They will be carefully classified, labelled and catalogued; and each exhibitor will be thus enabled to compare his contributions with those of a similar character from distant sections of this country, and from foreign countries.

Persons intending to contribute, are referred to the following list of the more important and valuable minerals, with directions annexed, which last they are requested to observe with great care.

It is necessary that all persons desirous to act on the suggestions contained in this circular, should immediately address to William Whetten, Esq., the Secretary of the Association, No 53 Broadway, a statement of their intention, and of the space in square feet, as near as they can estimate, that their contributions, when arranged, will occupy.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, *President*.

#### LIST OF MINERALS DESIRED FOR EXHIBITION.

It is especially important, that the following Metals and Minerals should be well represented in the Exhibition :—

##### METALS AND ORES.

IRON and its ORES—including the *Magnetic Ores, Hematites, Bog-iron ore, Carbonates, Iron-stones* of the coal formation, *Specular Iron* and *Franklinite, Pig-iron*, together with the limestones and clays used for fluxes, and specimens of the *slag* or “*cinder*,” *Bar-iron* and *Steel* in their various stages of manufacture.

COPPER.—*Native Copper* of Lake Superior; *Copper-ores*, including the *Sulphurets, Carbonates* and *Oxides*, with samples of the ores as dressed for market; *Metallic Copper*, in its various stages of refinement from the mixed ores; together with samples of the *slags* and refuse of the furnaces.

LEAD and its ORES.—*Lead preparations*, including *Oxides, Carbonates*, and the various salts and pigments.

GOLD.—*Native*, together with the *gold-bearing quartz* and rocks; *auriferous Pyrites*, residues of the extractive processes, including *tailings, black-sand, &c.*

SILVER.—*Platina, Rhodium* and *Iridosmine*.

ZINC ORES—including *Oxides, Silicates, Calamines, Blendes*, together with the manufactured products.

MERCURY.—*Cinnabar* of California, *Nickel, Cobalt*, and their preparations.

TIN ORES.—*Chrome ores* and products of *Chrome, Iron Pyrites, Manganese*.

#### NON-METALLIC MINERALS.

*Sulphur, Bromine, Iodine, Salt, Magnesites, Sulphate of Barytes, (Barytes,) crude and ground; Graphite, ("Black-lead,") Mica, Precious, Stones, Corundum, Fire-clays, Porcelain clays, Kaoline, Glass-sand, Feldspar, Gypsum, Phosphorites, Ochres, and Earthy Paints, Aluminous Shales, Marls.*

#### BUILDING MATERIALS.

*Sienite, Granite, Porphyry, Sandstones, Limestones; MARBLES, white, black and colored; Breccias, Statuary Marble, Serpentine, ("verd antique,") Slates, Flagging-stones, Steatite, Hydraulic Limestones, Cements, Gypsum and Alabaster.*

#### FUELS.

COALS.—*Bituminous, Semi-bituminous, Anthracite, Rhode-Island Coal,*  
Fossil *Coal-plants* and impressions, and the contiguous *Iron ores.*

LIGNITES.—*Bitumen, Naphtha, Asphalt, Mineral Oil.*

#### *Directions for Selecting and Packing Specimens intended to be sent to New-York for Exhibition.*

1. The specimens should be obtained directly from the Mine, and possess fresh and clean surfaces.
2. Specimens for a series should not be over five or six inches square, and two inches thick; specimens should be trimmed to this size and shape when practicable, as uniformity of size and shape is important.
3. The surfaces of specimens should not be allowed to come in contact or be rubbed together so as to become scratched or injured.
4. Each specimen should be numbered and labelled, and separately wrapped in an abundance of stout, thick paper.
5. Each series of specimens should be carefully packed in boxes, which should be distinctly marked and numbered, and not exceed 200 pounds in weight.
6. Choice specimens or crystallizations should be separately packed.
7. At the time of sending the box or package, an Invoice or List of the contents should be sent by mail. It should give the Exhibitor's name



and address, and the name and locality of the Mine, together with such facts in relation to it as are of a scientific or practical nature. The list should refer to *each* specimen by its number; and refer to the box or package by its mark and number.

The lamented death of Mr. Webster had prevented the Directors from obtaining the support of the Government of the United States to the full extent that seemed desirable, and the President of the Association, therefore, on the 5th December, made to Mr. Everett, the Secretary of State of the United States, a request that he would communicate with such of the Ministers of the Republic in Europe as Mr. Webster had not been able to address, for the purpose of obtaining their co-operation in the general objects of the undertaking. To this request Mr. Everett replied in the most prompt and cordial manner. His letter was as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, }  
9th December, 1852. }

SIR :—I received yesterday your favor of the 6th, inclosing a copy of letters of Mr. Webster to yourself and to our Ministers at the principal European Courts. I also have to thank you for a very pleasing lithographic view of the edifice in course of erection for the proposed Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations.

It will afford me great pleasure to follow the example of my lamented predecessor in reference to your great undertaking. His circular letter of the 12th of October, recommending your enterprise, is addressed to the Ministers of the United States at five of the leading Courts in Europe. You name, in addition, our Minister at Constantinople; and if you will mention such other of our diplomatic representatives as you may wish a copy sent to, I will immediately cause it to be done.

I was yesterday requested by the Prussian Minister, on behalf of his Government, to address him a note, which should contain an authentic assurance of the favorable regard in which the Exhibition is held by the Government of the United States, to serve as the basis of the measures of co-operation which may be adopted by Prussia and the other States

of the Zollverein. I inclose you herewith a copy of my answer to Baron Von Gerolt.

If anything else occurs to you by which I can manifest my interest in this highly meritorious undertaking, you will greatly oblige me by mentioning it.

I remain, dear Sir, with great respect, faithfully yours,

(Signed,)

EDWARD EVERETT.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq.

(Copy.)

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, }  
"7th December, 1852. }

"SIR:—In compliance with the wish expressed by you yesterday, I have much pleasure to say that, though the Industrial Exhibition proposed to be held in New-York next year is not undertaken by the Government of the United States, nor under its control, it is viewed with great favor by the President. Letters to this effect, written by the late Secretary of State, have appeared in the public journals, and the same dispositions are still entertained by the Department. It will be a source of gratification to this Government to witness the co-operation in the projected Exhibition of the friendly powers of Europe, and of their citizens and subjects concerned in every branch of the useful and ornamental arts. Whatever aid can be legally extended to the Exhibition by the Executive will be cheerfully given. You have been already informed that the Secretary of the Treasury will consider the Exhibition building as a government warehouse, in order that articles imported from abroad may be entered in bond, subject to duty only in the event of their being sold in the country.

"I avail myself, Sir, of this opportunity to offer you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

(Signed,)

"EDWARD EVERETT."

"BARON F. VON GEROLT, &c. &c. &c."

The promise given in the letter from Mr. Everett to the President of the Association, was fully redeemed by the following communication, which was very shortly afterwards addressed by the Secretary of State to the Ministers and Charges d'Affaires of the United States in Europe:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }  
27th December, 1852. }

SIR:—I beg leave to invite your attention to the Industrial Exhibition, which is to take place in May next in the City of New-York. A private

circular letter on this subject was addressed by my predecessor to some of the diplomatic representatives of the United States in Europe. I take great pleasure in apprising those by whom copies of that letter were received, that the opinions of this Department, therein expressed, in favor of the proposed Exhibition, remain unchanged; and I am desirous of engaging the coöperation, generally, of our Ministers and *Chargés d'Affaires* abroad, as far as it can be properly given, in an undertaking of such manifest utility and interest.

The Exhibition, in its leading character, though not undertaken by the Government of the United States, will resemble that which was the subject of admiration throughout the civilized world during the summer of 1851. If it should yield in some respects, of necessity, to that great display of the products of the world's industry, it is believed that in some other respects the Exhibition at New-York will equal, and in others even surpass its prototype.

The circumstance that such an undertaking can with any confidence be projected on this side of the Atlantic Ocean, must be a matter of no ordinary significance to a reflecting mind in Europe. The City of New-York, as the centre of a system of internal communication, natural and artificial, without a parallel in Europe, affords peculiar facilities for such a purpose. It is perfectly well known that many causes conspired to prevent the industry of America from being adequately represented at the Exhibition in Hyde Park; and as far as the productive, manufacturing, and artistic resources of the United States are matters entitled to the consideration of the European world, they will be displayed to greater advantage in the New-York Exhibition, than on any former occasion.

For these reasons you may safely interest yourself, as far as it can with propriety be done, in the success of the Exhibition. To the inquiries which will be often addressed to you as to the character of the undertaking, you can answer that, though not a Government enterprise, it is viewed with great favor by the President of the United States; and that the Exhibition building will, by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, be made a government warehouse, in order to admit the importation in bond of articles sent from abroad, subject to duty only in the event of their being sold in this country. You can add, that it will be a source of gratification to the Government and people of this country to witness the coöperation, in the projected Exhibition, of the friendly Powers of Europe, and of their citizens and subjects. You will also no doubt take pleasure in extending every friendly office in your power to the Agents of the Exhibition now in Europe, or who may in the course of the winter and spring go abroad to make preparations for the Exhibition.

I will only add, that the immediate superintendence and management

are in the hands of Gentlemen second to none in this community for respectability of character, and that implicit reliance may be placed on the probity and good faith with which the enterprise will be conducted.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

EDWARD EVERETT.

The effect of the support thus given to the enterprise by the officers of the Federal Government, was to raise the undertaking from the position of a mere private affair, and to impress on it the character of a national undertaking. Among the gratifying proofs of the steady progress of the Exhibition in popularity and favor is the following language, held by His Excellency Horatio Seymour, the Governor of the State of New-York, in his annual Message of the 4th of January, 1853 :

The striking success of American industry and skill at the London Exhibition and in the British waters, during the year 1851, naturally aroused a desire for the organization in this country of an Industrial Exhibition analogous to that which has conferred so much honor on England. The limitations of the powers of our National and State Governments prevented their more direct action, but a charter was granted by the Legislature at the session of 1852, forming an association designed to accomplish this enterprise. With the favor of the General Administration, and the active aid of the City of New-York, the Association is pursuing its task with energy, its managers appearing fully sensible of the high expectations excited by their undertaking. While the producers of Europe will avail themselves of so favorable an opportunity to bring their fabrics to the notice of the consumers of this country, the collection, on a national scale, of the products of American industry, must of itself secure a result of such interest and practical value as fully to repay the great labor which the work requires. The building designed to receive the Exhibition, now partly erected, promises to unite convenience and ample space with a high and novel character of architectural beauty ; and may, if the success of the enterprise shall warrant its preservation, remain for similar uses through future years.

His Excellency George F. Fort, Governor of the

State of New-Jersey, in the annual Message delivered by him in January, has also called the attention of the people of that State to the New-York Exhibition, in the following words :

“ An Association has been formed in the City of New-York for the purpose of originating an Industrial Exhibition similar in character and design to the ‘ Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations,’ which was held in London during the year 1851. An ample edifice, of architectural beauty and proportions, is now in the course of erection. It is worthy of remark, that the glass which enters into the composition of the building is *wholly* of New-Jersey manufacture, together with a large proportion of the iron work ; while the Chief Engineer is one of our enterprising citizens. The character of this State for industry and skill, agricultural, manufacturing, and mineral wealth and productions, induces the belief that her citizens will avail themselves of the opportunity presented to maintain and increase the reputation she has already acquired, by contributing her full quota to render the Exhibition interesting and successful.”

The foregoing pages present a full statement of the various steps taken by the Directors of this enterprise, from its outset to the present time. It will readily be believed that the obtaining of the charter, the raising the requisite capital, the selection of the plans, the appointment of the Engineer and his associates, the various construction contracts, the organization of the Foreign Department, the Canada Agency, the issuing the various circulars, the formation of the local committees, with all the correspondence and the innumerable incidental details resulting therefrom, have been a work of considerable magnitude. The success of the enterprise thus far has been beyond what the most sanguine could have expected. Supported by the Government of their own country, the Directors have met with a cordial response from abroad. Appli-

cations from all parts of the Union have been made and are making by those desirous to display the trophies of American Industry; and the reports from the European Agent leave no longer any doubt that the Old World will be fully represented in the New-York Exhibition.

The following documents show the active interest taken by the French Government in the enterprise:

Ministry of the Interior, Agriculture and Commerce—Direction of Agriculture and Commerce—Division of Foreign Trade—Office of the General Movements of Trade and Navigation—Universal Exposition of New-York.

PARIS, NOV. 30, 1852.

SIR :—I have perused with interest the account of proceedings you furnish me of the ceremony which took place, and the speeches that were delivered in New-York, on the occasion of erecting the first column of the Palace of the American Exhibition.

In order to give these documents all the publicity in my power, I have ordered the insertion in the *Moniteur* of the article published in the *Courrier des Etats-Unis* which contained those details.

I avail myself of this opportunity to hand you a copy of the Circular which I have addressed to our Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures on transmitting to them the plans and design of the New-York Exhibition Palace which you had, for this purpose, forwarded to my Department.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

For the Minister, the Counsellor of State, Director of  
Agriculture and Commerce,

(Signed)

HEURTIER.

Mr. BUSCHEK, Director-General of the New-York Exposition, 5 Rue Lafayette.

Ministry of the Interior for Agriculture and Commerce—Direction of Agriculture and Trade—Division of Foreign Trade—Universal Exposition of New-York—Communication of Official Notice and Plan.

PARIS, 22d Nov., 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—The Universal Exhibition which is to take place in New-York, in May, 1853, has, undoubtedly, aroused the attention of our manufacturers and artists; many amongst them will, probably, wish to send specimens of their products. It, therefore, is important that they should be made minutely acquainted with all the various arrangements adopted for the occasion of this Exhibition, by the Company undertaking the same.

My Department, ever eager to second and enlighten, under all circumstances, the efforts of our producers, has already, through the *Moniteur*, given publicity to the principal acts of the New-York Committee.

I now hand you, annexed,

1. A copy of the official notice emanating from the said Committee, indicating the formalities to be fulfilled for the transmission and the return of products, which, as said Circular states, will be at the expense of the Direction established in New-York.

2. A sketch of the plan and design of the edifice destined to receive them. I request you, Gentlemen, to bring these documents to the knowledge of the manufacturers and artists of your District, and to make known to me, so far as you can, who those are that prepare themselves to take a part in said Exhibition.

Receive, Gentlemen, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

For the Minister the Counsellor of State,

Director of Agriculture and Commerce,

(Signed)

HEURTIER.

Much has thus been done, but still much remains to do. The building, although steadily advancing, is yet to be completed; the applications for space from all parts of the Union are to be classified, arranged, and passed upon; the goods to be received from abroad; and finally, all the arrangements in the interior of the edifice to be made before the task is ended.

But in what has been done the Directors have been supported and encouraged by the cordial aid which they have received from all classes of our people, and they do not fear that this aid will be withdrawn in regard to what yet remains to do. The active and intelligent mind of the country has recognized the merits of the scheme, and has given it that countenance and assistance which it is always ready to extend to liberal enterprises.

The Directors appreciate sensibly the cordial and

generous spirit of confidence that has been manifested toward them, and feel keenly the responsibility that it imposes. It is their intention to proceed in the same spirit in which they have thus far gone on, to call to their aid in every department the best talent to be had, and so to conduct the enterprise that it shall be of both utility and credit to the country. They are satisfied that they will receive the aid and support that they shall show themselves to deserve.

The Officers and Agents of the Association are at present as follows:

**Directors:**

MORTIMER LIVINGSTON,	PHILIP BURROWES,
ALFRED PELL,	JOHNSTON LIVINGSTON,
AUGUST BELMONT,	CHARLES W. FOSTER,
ALEXANDER HAMILTON, JUN.	THEODORE SEDGWICK,
GEORGE L. SCHUYLER,	WILLIAM W. STONE,
ELBERT J. ANDERSON.	

**President:**

THEODORE SEDGWICK.

**Vice-President,**

DISCHARGING THE DUTIES OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER:

WILLIAM WHETTEN.

<i>Book-keeper,</i> .....	L. C. STUART,
<i>Clerk,</i> .....	FRANCIS HAMILTON.

<i>Superintending Architect and Engineer,</i> ...	C. E. DETMOLD.
<i>Consulting Engineer,</i> .....	HORATIO ALLEN.
<i>Architects,</i> .....	{ GEORGE J. B. CARSTENSEN, CHARLES GILDEMEISTER.
<i>Consulting Architect,</i> .....	EDMUND HURRY.
<i>In charge of the Pattern Shop,</i> .....	{ CHAS. J. SHEPARD, JOHN PURVIS.
<i>Superintendent at Reservoir Square,</i> .....	G. W. STAUNTON.
<i>In charge of the Office at Reservoir Square,</i>	HENRY M. VAUGHAN.



office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

ARCH'D CAMPBELL,  
*Dep. Secretary of State.*

*Albany, March 11, 1852.*

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## APPENDIX B.

CUSTOM HOUSE, NEW-YORK, }  
Collector's Office, May 24, 1852. }

SIR:—In reply to your letter of the 21st inst., requesting information as to the facilities to be afforded by the Government to the Directors of the ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS, I have the honor to state, that I have no objection to grant the privilege of making the building to be erected by the Association a “BONDED WAREHOUSE,” according to the provisions of the law, and the instructions of the Treasury Department.

This will enable your Association to import articles free of duty, on the usual bond being given, and the warehouse being placed under the superintendence of an officer of the Customs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
H. MAXWELL, *Collector.*

THEODORE SEDGWICK, ESQ., }  
53 Broadway. }